

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/756,429	MORRIS ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Lourdes Cruz	2827	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to An Amendment filed 4-16-2001.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-37.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 08 January 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. <u>2</u> |
| 5 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. <u>17</u> | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other IDS (PTO-1449) #18. |

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The present Application discloses glass micro-spheres and rear projection screens containing glass micro-spheres, which combine a particular index of refraction (preferable no greater than 1.7), and low levels of defects (about 15% defects in population) upon formation. More particularly:

Independent claims 1,24 specifically recites about 5% wt. Total of an alkali metal oxide selected for the group of Na₂O, K₂O, Li₂O, and combinations thereof, a specific wt % of SiO₂, and TiO₂,

Claim 1 also recites the specific defects in population as produced.

Independent claim 9 recites the micro-spheres including less than the total amount of alkali metal oxide than the theoretical amount based on the amount of starting materials.

Independent claim 10 recites the specific defects in population as produced and the micro-spheres including less than the total amount of alkali metal oxide than the theoretical amount based on the amount of starting materials.

Independent claims 21,22,23 recite a specific index of refraction, SiO₂, TiO₂, and an alkali metal oxide.

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All other independent claims recite the specifics above, or combinations of the specifics above.

These when in combination with all other specific limitations in the claims, make up for a structure that is neither obvious over nor anticipated by the prior art of record.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon includes Jones et al., wherein viewing surfaces of high contrast are disclosed; Takajama, wherein a screen for an Liquid Crystal projector is disclosed; and Oyama, wherein a light absorbing anti-reflector is disclosed. However, the prior art of record fails to, either alone or in combination, anticipate the invention as claimed. Hence the Notice of Allowability found herein.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Elle Cruz whose telephone number is 703-306-5691. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 10-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kammand Cuneo can be reached on 703-308-1233. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elle Cruz', with a stylized, flowing script.

Elle Cruz

Lourdes Cruz
Examiner
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